

CLAIM LISTING

1. (Original) A treatment device, comprising:
an antimicrobial sheet material having
a first layer of a gel composition including a block copolymer and mineral oil, and
a second layer engaging at least one side of said first layer, said second layer containing a bactericidal metal; and
means for retaining said antimicrobial sheet material in a selected position in a body cavity of a user.
2. (Original) The device is recited in claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said bactericidal metal is silver.
3. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said bactericidal metal is crystalline silver.
4. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein said bactericidal metal further comprises silver, said silver mechanically attached to said second layer so that, when said layer is wetted, at least a portion of said silver is released in the form of ionic silver.
5. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein said second layer further comprises silver-containing nylon fabric.
6. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein said second layer is selected from the group consisting of (a) a coating on said first layer, said coating

containing said bactericidal metal, (b) a quantity of said bactericidal metal in said first layer, and (c) a silver-containing material attached to said first layer.

7. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein said antimicrobial sheet material further comprises at least one third layer engaging another side of said first layer, said at least one third layer made of moisture-absorbing material, moisture-permeable material, or moisture-impermeable material, or gas-permeable material.

8. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein said retaining means further comprises a dental appliance.

9. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein said retaining means further comprises a tether.

10. (Original) The device as recited in claim a, wherein said retaining means further comprises an appliance made of a somewhat flexible, conformable material.

11. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein said retaining means further comprises a shapeable appliance.

12. (Previously amended) A treatment device, comprising:
an antimicrobial sheet material containing a bactericidal metal; and
a[n] dental appliance for retaining said antimicrobial sheet material in a selected position engaging a treatment site so that, when said antimicrobial sheet material is in said selected position, said antimicrobial sheet material releases metal ions to said treatment site when wetted.

13. (Previously amended) The composition as recited in claim 12[11], wherein at least a portion of said bacterial metal is silver.

14. (Previously amended) The device as recited in claim 12[11], wherein at least a portion of said bacterial metal is crystalline silver.

15. (Previously amended) The device as recited in claim 12[11], wherein said antimicrobial sheet material further comprises silver-containing nylon fabric.

16. (Previously amended) The device as recited in claim 12[11], wherein said antimicrobial sheet material further comprises:
a first layer of polymeric material; and
a second layer engaging at least one side of said first layer, said second layer containing said bactericidal metal.

17. (Previously amended) The device as recited in claim 12[11], wherein said antimicrobial sheet material further comprises:
a first layer of polymeric material including a gel composition including a block copolymer and mineral oil; and
a second layer engaging at least one side of said first layer, said second layer containing said bactericidal metal. [The device as recited in claim 9, wherein said first layer further comprises a gel composition including a block copolymer and mineral oil.]

18. (Previously amended) The device as recited in claim 12[11], wherein said appliance is at least somewhat flexible.

19. (Previously amended) The device as recited in claim 12[11], wherein said appliance is at least somewhat shapeable.

20. (Previously amended) A treatment device, comprising:
an antimicrobial sheet material having
a first layer of polymeric material, and
a second layer engaging at least one side of said first layer, said second

layer containing silver; and

a[n] dental appliance for retaining said antimicrobial sheet material in a selected position engaging a treatment site so that, when said antimicrobial sheet material is in selected position, said antimicrobial sheet material releases metal ions to said treatment site when wetted.

21. (Original) The device as recited in claim 20, wherein said first layer further comprises a gel composition including a block copolymer and mineral oil.

22. (Original) The device as recited in claim 20, wherein at least a portion of said silver is crystalline.

23. (Original) The device as recited in claim 20, wherein said second layer is selected from the group consisting of (a) a coating on said first layer, said coating containing said silver, (b) a quantity of said silver in said first layer, and (c) a silver-containing material attached to said first layer.

24. (Original) The device as recited in claim 20, wherein said second layer further comprises silver-containing nylon fabric.

25. (Original) The device as recited in claim 20, wherein said antimicrobial sheet material further comprises at least one third layer engaging another side of said first layer, said at least one third layer made of moisture-absorbing material, moisture-permeable material, or moisture-impermeable material.

26. (Original) The device as recited in claim 20, wherein said appliance is at least somewhat conformable.

27. (Original) The device as recited in claim 20, wherein said appliance is at least somewhat shapeable.

28. (Previously withdrawn) A device for treating dental and periodontal conditions, comprising:
- an antimicrobial sheet material having
 - a first layer of polymeric material, and
 - at least one second layer engaging a side of said first layer, said second layer containing metallic silver; and
 - a dental appliance operably connected to said antimicrobial sheet material, said dental appliance configured for retaining said antimicrobial sheet material in a position wherein said antimicrobial sheet material engages a selected region in the mouth of a user so that, when said antimicrobial sheet material is in said selected position, said antimicrobial sheet material releases silver ions to said treatment site when wetted.
29. (Previously withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 29, wherein said first layer further comprises a gel composition including a block copolymer and mineral oil.
30. (Previously withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 29, wherein at least a portion of said silver is crystalline.
31. (Previously withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 29, wherein said second layer further comprises silver-containing nylon fabric.
32. (Previously withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 29, wherein said dental appliance includes a somewhat conformable substrate carrying said antimicrobial sheet material.
33. (Previously withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 29, wherein said dental appliance further comprises a formable material attached to a side of said first layer, said formable material being shapeable.

34. (Previously withdrawn) The device as recited in claim 27, wherein said dental appliance further comprises a brace, a splint, a cap, a bite block, or a bite plate operably connected to said antimicrobial sheet material.

35. (Previously withdrawn) A method for making a device for use in treating dental and periodontal conditions, comprising:
providing an antimicrobial sheet material having a first layer of polymeric material and at least one second layer engaging a side of said first layer, said second layer containing silver; and
attaching a quantity of said antimicrobial sheet material to a dental appliance, said dental appliance configured for retaining said antimicrobial sheet material in a position wherein said antimicrobial sheet material engages a selected region in the mouth of a user.

36. (Previously withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 36, wherein said first layer includes a gel composition containing a block copolymer and mineral oil.

37. (Previously withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 36, wherein at least a portion of said silver is crystalline.

38. (Previously withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 36, wherein said second layer further comprises silver-containing nylon fabric.

39. (Previously withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 36, wherein said dental appliance further comprises a shapeable material attached to a side of said first layer.